

## Message Text

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43

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, AORG

SUBJECT: SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE ON  
U.S. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REF: (A) GENEVA 3649 (B) STATE 114379

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 8 AND 29 OF REFTEL (B) WERE TRANSMITTED  
IN REFTEL (A). FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH NUMBERS ARE KEYED TO NUMBERING  
IN REFTEL (B).

2A. IN 1975 THE GATT HELD A TOTAL OF 131 MEETINGS OF 36 COMM-  
ITTEES, GROUPS, COUNCILS, ETC., FOR A TOTAL OF 296 MEETING DAYS.

4. THE GATT DOES NOT HAVE A GOVERNING BODY IN THE SENSE OF MANY  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE "GOVERNING BODY" OF THE  
GATT IS THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT MEETING  
IN THE COUNCIL. THUS THE GATT AS AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
IS ONLY A SECRETARIAT SERVING THE WISHES OF ITS MEMBERS AND DOES  
NOT MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MEMBER NATIONS. THE SENIOR  
OFFICERS OF THE GATT SUCH AS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR GENERALS OCCASIONALLY SUBMIT INFORMAL SUGGESTIONS ONLY.

5. 86 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL GATT BUDGET IS ACCOUNTED FOR BY ADMIN-  
ISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL COSTS AND TRAVEL COSTS. THIS IS EXCLU-  
SIVE OF GATT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE AND  
OF THE BUILDING FUND. THE GATT BUDGET IN 1970 WAS EXPRESSED IN  
U.S. DOLLARS AND TOTALED 3,577,622 DOLLARS. IN THE INTERIM THE  
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BUDGET HAS BEEN SWITCHED TO SWISS FRANCS, AND AMONG OTHER THINGS

THE SWISS FRANC HAS APPRECIATED BY MORE THAN 70 PER CENT AGAINST THE DOLLAR. THE 1976 BUDGET IS 34,195,400 SWISS FRANCS. THIS INCLUDES 2,280,000 DOLLARS IN THE BUILDING FUND. SINCE THE GATT IS A TRADE AGREEMENT, EACH COUNTRY'S ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GATT IS BASED ON THAT COUNTRY'S PERCENTAGE OF TRADE. IN 1975 THE UNITED STATES' PERCENTAGE OF TRADE WAS 14.35 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL TRADE OF GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES. THUS THE UNITED STATES' CONTRIBUTION TO THE 1976 BUDGET IS 14.35 PER CENT.

6. NONE OF THE BUDGET IS INVOLVED IN PROGRAMS OR OPERATIONS IN COUNTRIES HAVING A PER CAPITA GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT 200 DOLLARS OR LESS, AS GATT IS SIMPLY A SECRETARIAT SERVICING A TRADE AGREEMENT AND IS LOCATED IN SWITZERLAND. THE SECRETARIAT HAS A SPECIAL ASSISTANCE UNIT AND PARTIALLY SUPPORTS A GATT TRAINING COURSE, A SMALL BUT INDETERMINATE PORTION OF WHICH BENEFITS COUNTRIES IN THIS PER CAPITA GNP CATEGORY. THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE, WHICH IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY GATT AND UNCTAD, HAS ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SOME OF WHICH FALL INTO THE LESS THAN DOLLARS 200 PER CAPITA GNP CATEGORY.

7. GATT FUNDING CURRENTLY (AND IN 1970) IS BASED UPON DIRECTLY ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND THERE IS NO OTHER SOURCE OF FUNDS.

8. SEE REFTEL (A).

11A. 7.29 PER CENT OF PROFESSIONALS ARE U.S. NATIONALS, VERSUS 6.9 PER CENT IN 1970.

11B. ONE OF THE 7 U.S. PROFESSIONALS IS A WOMAN, VERSUS 3 OF THE 6 IN 1970.

11C. THE GATT SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE A FURTHER BREAKDOWN FOR 1970 ON THE BASIS OF NATIONALITIES. HOWEVER, CURRENTLY THE 3 COUNTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBERS OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES ARE FRANCE 25 (INCLUDING A LARGE PART OF THE INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR POOL), SWITZERLAND 15 AND UK 11.

11D. THE GATT HAS NO SYSTEM OF TARGETING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES FROM ANY COUNTRY.

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12. THE THREE HIGHEST POSITIONS CURRENTLY HELD BY U.S. NATIONALS ARE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL GARDNER PATTERSON (PAY POSITION UNGRADED); JAN TUMLIR, DIRECTOR OF TRADE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION (PAY POSITION D.1); PAULETTE LUNDGREN, COUNSELLOR, GENERAL DIVISION (PAY POSITION P.4).

14A. THE GATT IS RECOGNIZED AS BEING SMALL AND EFFICIENTLY ADMIN-

ISTERED. THE PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE HANDICAP HAS BEEN THAT ITS PERSONNEL ARE NOW SCATTERED IN FIVE DIFFERENT BUILDINGS. RENOVATION OF AN OLD BUILDING IN WHICH ALL OF THE STAFF WILL BE PLACED IS NOW WELL UNDER WAY AND SHOULD SOLVE THIS DIFFICULTY.

14B. THE PAY GRADE STRUCTURE OF THE GATT COULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN OBSTACLE TO ACHIEVEMENT OF UNITED STATES TRADE POLICY OBJECTIVES. DIVISION DIRECTORS IN THE GATT ARE GRADED AT THE D.1 LEVEL, WHILE DIVISION DIRECTORS IN UNCTAD ARE GRADED D.1. UNITED STATES TRADE POLICY HAS TRADITIONALLY MANIFESTED ITS INITIATIVES THROUGH THE GATT. THE ELEVATION OF DIVISION DIRECTORS TO THE MORE REALISTIC D.2 LEVEL WOULD IN OUR VIEW SUFFICIENTLY IMPROVE MORALE THAT MORE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THIS ALREADY USEFUL ORGANIZATION COULD BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW.

15. THE GATT COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REVIEWS THE GATT BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION EACH YEAR AND INDEED HAS RECENTLY TENDED TO MEET MORE OFTEN THAN THAT. THE COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED OF KEY CONTRIBUTORS, NOTABLY THE U.S., FRG, FRANCE, UK. IN ADDITION, THE GATT IS AUDITED YEARLY BY EXTERNAL AUDITORS.

16. SINCE THE GATT IS AN AGREEMENT SERVICED BY A SECRETARIAT AND IS NOT AN ORGANIZATION IN THE STRICT SENSE, THE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ARE DICTATED BY EVENTS IN WORLD TRADE AND BY THE TRADE POLICIES OF THE GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES. WITH RESPECT TO INTERNAL SECRETARIAT ORGANIZATION, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL HOLDS REGULAR INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH HIS STAFF.

17. SEE 16 ABOVE. THE CURRENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE GATT, WHICH ARE FORMULATED BY REPEAT BY ITS MEMBER GOVERNMENTS AND NOT REPEAT NOT THE ORGANIZATION, ARE PUBLISHED REGULARLY IN MANY PLACES, INCLUDING THE "GATT ACTIVITIES" SERIES. THE LATEST OF THESE, GATT ACTIVITIES IN 1975, WAS PUBLISHED IN APRIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1976 AND HAS BEEN POUCHED AS CUSTOMARY FOR NORMAL WASHINGTON DISTRIBUTION.

23. THE FORMAL MECHANISMS FOR THE GATT'S WORK ARE MANNED BY GOVERNMENT DELEGATES.

24. BASIC GATT DECISIONS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE "BASIC INSTRUMENTS AND SELECTED DOCUMENTS" SERIES. AS OF THE MOMENT THERE ARE 21 BOUND VOLUMES OF SUPPLEMENTS PLUS FIVE BASIC VOLUMES. MEMBER GOVERNMENTS REGULARLY RECEIVE DISTRIBUTION OF ALL GATT DOCUMENTS, BUT THERE IS NO ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF GATT DOCUMENTS TO ANYONE ELSE. SINCE THE GATT IS AN AGREEMENT COMPOSED OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, ITS MEETINGS ARE CONDUCTED BY OFFICIALLY ACCREDITED GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS. THERE IS THUS NO ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

OR ANYONE NOT ACCREDITED TO A GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO ATTEND  
ITS MEETINGS.

26. IN SEPTEMBER 1973 THE UNITED STATES JOINED A MAJOR GATT  
PROGRAM INITIATIVE, IN THE INITIATION OF THE "TOKYO ROUND" OF  
MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

29. SEE REFTTEL (A).ABRAMS

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